



**MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE
(Path B)
Curriculum**

www.arch.umd.edu
archinfo@umd.edu
301.405.8000

Applicants to the seven-semester Master of Architecture degree track come from diverse educational backgrounds and from many locations worldwide. They often bring with them valuable insights based on their wide-ranging life and educational experiences. The admissions committee evaluates each candidate based on a portfolio of creative work (free-hand drawing, painting, sculpture and/or other examples of proficiency in the visual arts), transcripts, letters of recommendation, personal statement and Graduate Record Examination performance.

The Master of Architecture curriculum is designed specifically for applicants who have had little or no coursework in architecture during their undergraduate educational experience.

YEAR 1

SEMESTER 1 Fall

ARCH	404	Graduate Architectural Design Studio I	6
ARCH	462	Building Methods and Materials	3
ARCH	443	Visual Communication	3
ARCH	426	History of World Architecture II	3
Semester Total			15

SEMESTER 2 Spring

ARCH	405	Graduate Architectural Design Studio II	6
ARCH	463	Sustainable Systems	3
ARCH	445	Visual Analysis	3
ARCH	425	History of World Architecture I	3
Semester Total			15

Recommended study abroad and/or internship

YEAR 2

SEMESTER 3 Fall

ARCH	406	Graduate Architectural Design Studio III	6
ARCH	464	Structures I	3
ARCH	466	Building Systems	3
ARCH	460	Site Analysis and Design	3
Semester Total			15

SEMESTER 4 Spring

ARCH	407	Graduate Architectural Design Studio IV	6
ARCH	465	Structures II	3
ARCH	654	Urban Development and Design Theory	3
ARCH	635	History of Modern Architecture	3
Semester Total			15

Recommended study abroad and/or internship

Recommended BIM Skills Course

YEAR 3

SEMESTER 5 Fall

ARCH	600	Integrated Design Studio	6
ARCH	611	Advanced Technology	3
ARCH	4/6xx	History/Theory of Architecture Elective	3
ARCH	6xx	Architectural Elective	3
Semester Total			15

SEMESTER 6 Spring

ARCH	601	Topical Design Studio	6
ARCH	797	Thesis Proseminar	3
ARCH	4/6xx	History/Theory of Architecture Seminar	3
ARCH	6xx	Architecture Elective	3
Semester Total			15

Recommended study abroad and/or internship

YEAR 3.5

SEMESTER 7 Fall

ARCH	799	Thesis Research	6
ARCH	798	Thesis	3
ARCH	770	Professional Practice	3
XXXX	xxx	Elective	3
Semester Total			15

Total Credit Hours in the Master of Architecture Degree 105

NB: Course offerings may vary from semester to semester, the above curriculum is intended to illustrate a typical path toward completion of the degree. The actual sequence of courses may vary.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

A complete listing of course descriptions offered by the Architecture Program can be found at: <https://arch.umd.edu/programs/architecture/academics/architecture-courses>

GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN MAJOR POLICY:

The 3.0 GPA in major policy requires all graduate students matriculating in Fall 2012 to earn a 3.0 grade point average in their major, minor, and/or certificate requirements. With the new plus/minus policy, the minimum grade for most major courses is a B-, now calculated as a 2.7. It is important that graduate students clearly understand what courses make up major, minor and certificate requirements, and that the cumulative GPA for those courses must be at least 3.0.

RECOMMENDED INTERNSHIPS:

At various points in a student's education practical experience gained through internship complements and provides insight into formal education. The Program provides an annual Career Fair that enables students gain contacts with major firms in the Washington-Baltimore area as well as firms with numerous locations nationally and internationally. Many students arrange internships over the summer and/or winter recess. While the Program does not provide academic credit for work in a professional context, the experiences gained therein are invaluable to a student's development.

RECOMMENDED STUDY ABROAD:

The Architecture Program offers several intensive study abroad programs during the winter term and over the summer session. The programs are generally three or six weeks in duration and are lead by faculty members who have proven expertise in locales in which the programs are located. Past programs have taken students to France, India, Italy, North Africa, Peru, Russia, Turkey, South Africa, and the Yucatan. Students study the historical and contemporary architecture, urbanism, and cultures of the nations visited.

ACCREDITATION:

In the United States, most state registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture. A program may be granted a 6-year, 3-year, or 2-year term of accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established educational standards.

Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may consist of a pre-professional undergraduate degree and a professional graduate degree that, when earned sequentially, constitute an accredited professional education. However, the pre-professional degree is not by itself, recognized as an accredited degree.

The University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:

M.Arch (pre-professional degree + 60 graduate credits)
M.Arch (non-pre-professional degree + 105 credits)

Next accreditation visit for both programs: 2025

Current information about the University of Maryland's Accreditation Status can be found at:
<https://arch.umd.edu/programs/architecture/academics/naab-accreditation>

Additional information about NAAB can be found at: www.naab.org

QUALIFYING FOR ADVANCED STANDING:

A condition of admission with advanced standing in the Architecture Program is documentation to verify completion of National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB) accreditation criteria that applicants have satisfied in prior coursework at their undergraduate institution. This requirement is now a condition of accreditation for all NAAB accredited architecture programs. The relevant text from the NAAB 2020 Conditions for Accreditation below:

PART FOUR (IV: SECTION 3—EVALUATION OF PREPARATORY EDUCATION

The program must demonstrate that it has a thorough and equitable process for evaluating the preparatory or pre-professional education of individuals admitted to the NAAB-accredited degree program.

- Programs must document their processes for evaluating a student's prior academic course work related to satisfying NAAB accreditation criteria when a student is admitted to the professional degree program.
- In the event a program relies on the preparatory educational experience to ensure that admitted students have met certain accreditation criteria, the program must demonstrate it has established standards for ensuring these accreditation criteria are met and for determining whether any gaps exist.
- The program must demonstrate that the evaluation of baccalaureate-degree or associate-degree content is clearly articulated in the admissions process, and that the evaluation process and its implications for the length of a professional degree program can be understood by a candidate before accepting the offer of admission. See also Condition II.4.6.

[NOTE: A review of course titles and descriptions in and of itself is not considered sufficient for this activity.]

Applicants for the Master of Architecture with Advanced Standing shall have completed the following coursework as part of their undergraduate degree in architecture equivalent to:

- 4 – Architectural Design Studios (6 credits each)
- 1 – Building Materials and Assemblies course (3 credits min.)
- 2 – Structural Systems Courses (3 credits each min.)
- 1 – Environmental Systems Course (3 credits min.)
- 1 – Sustainable Systems Course (3 credits min.)
- 2 – History of World Architecture Courses (3 credits each min.)

The course work must satisfy National Architectural Accrediting Board accreditation criteria, which are either met or partially met in the University of Maryland's Bachelor of Science Program and serve as pre-requisites for admission to the M ARCH program with advanced standing. The student shall have received a grade no less than B (3.0) in the courses in question. The NAAB criteria required for advanced standing consideration are:

PC.1	Career Paths**	SC1	Health, Safety and Welfare*
PC.2	Design**	SC.2	Professional Practice*
PC.3	Ecological Knowledge and Responsibility*	SC.3.	Regulatory Context*
PC.4	History and Theory**	SC.4	Technical Knowledge *
PC.5	Research and Innovation*	SC.5	Design Synthesis*
PC.6	Leadership and Collaboration*	SC.6	Building Integration*
PC.7	Learning and Teaching Culture*		
PC.8	Social Equity and Inclusion**		

*Indicates criterion is partially met in the pre-professional degree

**Indicates that criterion is met in the pre-professional degree

Supporting Materials Required for Verification:

Final determination of an applicant's eligibility for advanced standing in the M ARCH program will be made after he/she has been offered admission. Candidates will be informed of their eligibility to apply for advanced standing in the letter offering admission. Candidates who desire to be considered for advanced standing will be required to submit additional evidence to demonstrate that they satisfied required NAAB criteria to a satisfactory extent during the course of their undergraduate degree program. The following materials will be used in the evaluation process:

- The portfolio of academic work from architectural design studios (submitted as part of the regular application process).
- Course syllabi for each course taken during the applicant's undergraduate education in the following areas:
 - Structures courses
 - Building methods and materials courses
 - Mechanical, electrical and plumbing courses
 - Sustainable systems courses
 - Design studios
 - History / theory courses
 - Professional practice courses (if any)
 - Any other course for which you satisfied an NAAB criteria
- Assignments, projects, examinations, tests, and quizzes that serve as evidence of successful completion of the criteria from the above courses.

If deficiencies in accreditation criteria are found to exist, the applicant's curriculum will be modified to include additional coursework to satisfy the NAAB accreditation criteria requirements.

MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE (Path B)
Prerequisite: B.A or B.S. Degree

REQUIRED COURSEWORK IN ARCHITECTURE			Credit
ARCH	404	Graduate Architectural Design Studio I	6
ARCH	405	Graduate Architectural Design Studio II	6
ARCH	406	Graduate Architectural Design Studio III	6
ARCH	407	Graduate Architectural Design Studio IV	6
ARCH	425	History of World Architecture I	3
ARCH	426	History of World Architecture II	3
ARCH	443	Visual Communication	3
ARCH	445	Visual Analysis	3
ARCH	460	Site Analysis and Design	3
ARCH	462	Building Methods and Materials	3
ARCH	463	Sustainable Systems	3
ARCH	464	Structures I	3
ARCH	465	Structures II	3
ARCH	466	Building Systems	3
ARCH	600	Integrated Design Studio	6
ARCH	601	Topical Design Studio	6
ARCH	611	Advanced Technology	3
ARCH	635	History of Modern Architecture	3
ARCH	654	Urban Development and Design Theory	3
ARCH	770	Professional Practice	3
ARCH	797	Thesis Proseminar	3
ARCH	798	Thesis	3
ARCH	799	Thesis Research	6
ARCH	4/6xx	History/Theory of Architecture Elective	3
ARCH	4/6xx	History/Theory of Architecture Seminar	3
ARCH	6xx	Architecture Seminar	3
ARCH	6xx	Architecture Elective	3
XXXX	xxx	Elective	3

Total Credit Hours In the Master of Architecture Degree 105

Elective Courses students are encouraged to work with faculty mentors and the academic advising staff to select electives that contribute to their academic development.

Seminars are a specialized type of elective course, typically with smaller enrollments, involving directed research, presentations, and group discussions. All seminars (with the exception of Thesis Proseminar) are electives and may also count as an elective course.